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District of Arizona*

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CHINLE MAN FOUND GUILTY OF ASSAULT CHARGES

Raped two women and bit off one woman's finger tip

PHOENIX – A federal jury in Prescott, Ariz. has found Ramaris Paul Anagal, 31, of Chinle, Ariz., guilty of three counts of Aggravated Sexual Abuse and one count of Assault Resulting in Serious Bodily Injury. The defendant is in federal custody pending sentencing which is set before Judge Roger Strand on December 12, 2005.

Anagal beat a female companion in the car while traveling from Flagstaff, Ariz. toward Leupp, Ariz. on February 7, 2003. After stopping along the road, Anagal raped the female companion while forcing her to perform sex acts on his then girlfriend who was also traveling with them. Anagal pretended to have a gun during the ordeal. The girlfriend testified that she knew there was no gun but pretended to have one because she was afraid of Anagal. Both victims testified that Anagal told his girlfriend to shoot the friend.

Later, during a stop near Leupp, Ariz., the companion was able to escape. She reported the beating and the sexual assault to police the following day while the defendant and his girlfriend continued on to Birdsprings, Ariz. After spending the night at her family home, they drove to Winslow, Ariz. The next day the defendant became enraged, beating and choking his girlfriend with a seatbelt. After they drove onto the Navajo reservation, the defendant stopped the vehicle and forced her to perform another sex act with him before driving to the girlfriend's aunt's home.

While at the aunt's home, Anagal was again angered and beat the girlfriend, choked her and bit her on the chin, ear and hands. He then forced her to put her finger in his mouth and bit off her fingertip, stating he was leaving her something to remember him by. The girlfriend managed to get away and ran to her aunt's home where police were called. The girlfriend suffered a broken nose as well as needing surgery on her finger.

A conviction for Aggravated Sexual Assault carries a maximum penalty of life, a \$250,000 fine or both. A conviction for Assault Resulting in Serious Bodily Injury carries a maximum penalty of ten years in prison. In determining an actual sentence, Judge Strand will consult the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines, which provide appropriate sentencing ranges. The judge, however, is not bound by those guidelines in determining a sentence.

The investigation in this case was conducted by the FBI and the Navajo Department of Public Safety. The prosecution was handled by Dyanne Greer, Assistant U.S. Attorney, District of Arizona, Phoenix.

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